REMARKS:

In the foregoing amendments, the limitations of claim 2 were incorporated into claim 1, claims 2 and 6 were canceled, claims 7 and 9 were rewritten as independent claims, and claims 3, 4, 8, 10, and 11 were amended to depend from claim 1. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-5, and 7-11 are in the application for consideration by the examiner at this time.

The Official action objected to claims 2-5, 7-9, and 11 as being depended upon a rejected base claim, but stated these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In the foregoing amendments, the limitations of claim 2 were incorporated into claim 1. This is the same as rewriting claim 2 as an independent claim. Claims 3, 4, 8, 10, and 11 were amended to depend from claim 1. Claim 5 depends from claim 4, which depends from claim 1. Since claims 3-5, 8, 10, and 11 depend directly or indirectly from amended claim 1, which includes the limitations of claim 2 that were indicated as containing allowable subject matter, applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 3-5, 8, 10, and 11 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 7 and 9 were amended above by rewriting these claims as independent claims, including the limitations of claims 1 and 6 from which they depended. The outstanding Office action stated that claims 7 and 9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the

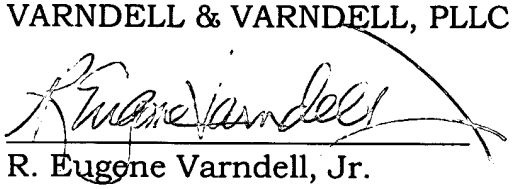
base claim and any intervening claims. Since amended claim 7 and 9 do this, a formal allowance of these claims is requested.

In summary, the foregoing amendments to applicant's claims 1, 3-5, and 7-11 limit the pending claims to subject matter that was indicated as allowable in the outstanding Office action. Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that the prior art rejections set forth in the outstanding Office action are now moot, because the subject matter rejected in the outstanding Office action over prior art is no longer present an applicant's claims. For these reasons, a formal allowance of pending claims 1, 3-5, and 7-11 is respectfully requested.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Official action mailed December 13, 2004. While it is believed that the present response places the application in condition for allowance, should the examiner have any comments or questions, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be telephoned at the below listed number to resolved any outstanding issues.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee therefor, as well as any other fees which may become due, may be charged to our deposit account No. 22-0256.

Respectfully submitted,
VARNDELL & VARNDELL, PLLC



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